

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 12 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by US 2002/0008731 (newly cited Matsumoto et al), and claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 14 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of Matsumoto et al in combination with various other references.

It is respectfully pointed out, however, that Matsumoto et al has a filing date of July 23, 2001, which is after the February 6, 2001 priority date claimed in the present application.

Accordingly, submitted herewith is an accurate English translation of the priority document JP 2001-029835 to show that all of pending claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9-12 and 14 are fully supported by the disclosure in JP 2001-029835 and therefore are entitled to the claimed priority date of February 6, 2001.

It is respectfully submitted that Matsumoto et al is not a proper reference against the claimed present invention, and it is respectfully requested that the rejections in view of Matsumoto et al be withdrawn.

RE: IDS

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner act on the Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 10, 2005, which is present in the Image File Wrapper of the present application. It is respectfully requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A submitted therewith be returned to indicate that the references listed thereon have been considered and made of record.

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In view of the foregoing, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Leonard Holtz/

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